ALL NEW
JUST MARRIED
CHARLTON COMICS
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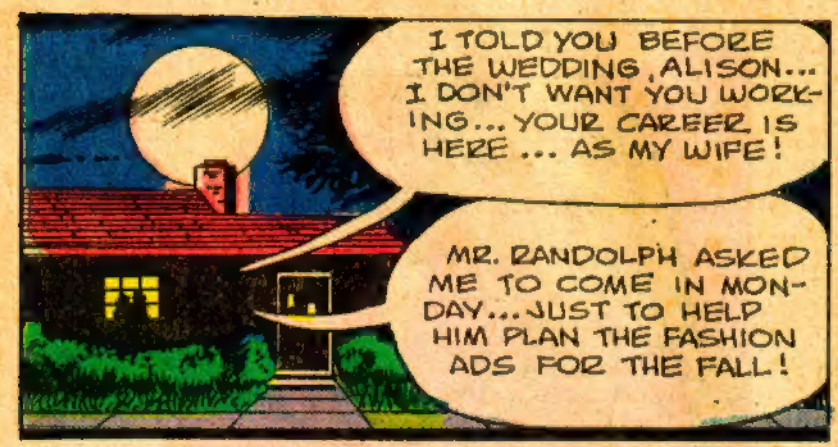
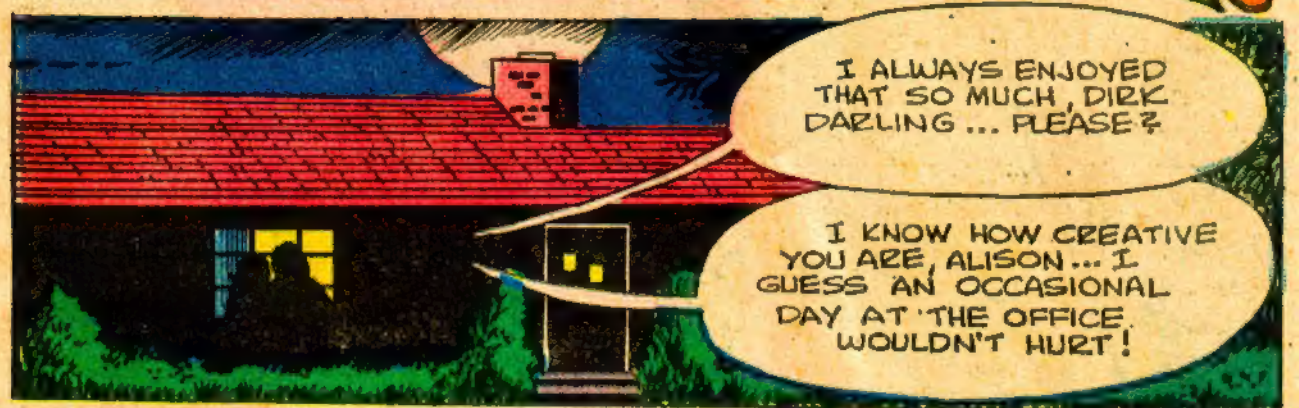
THE BEST OF TWO WORLDS

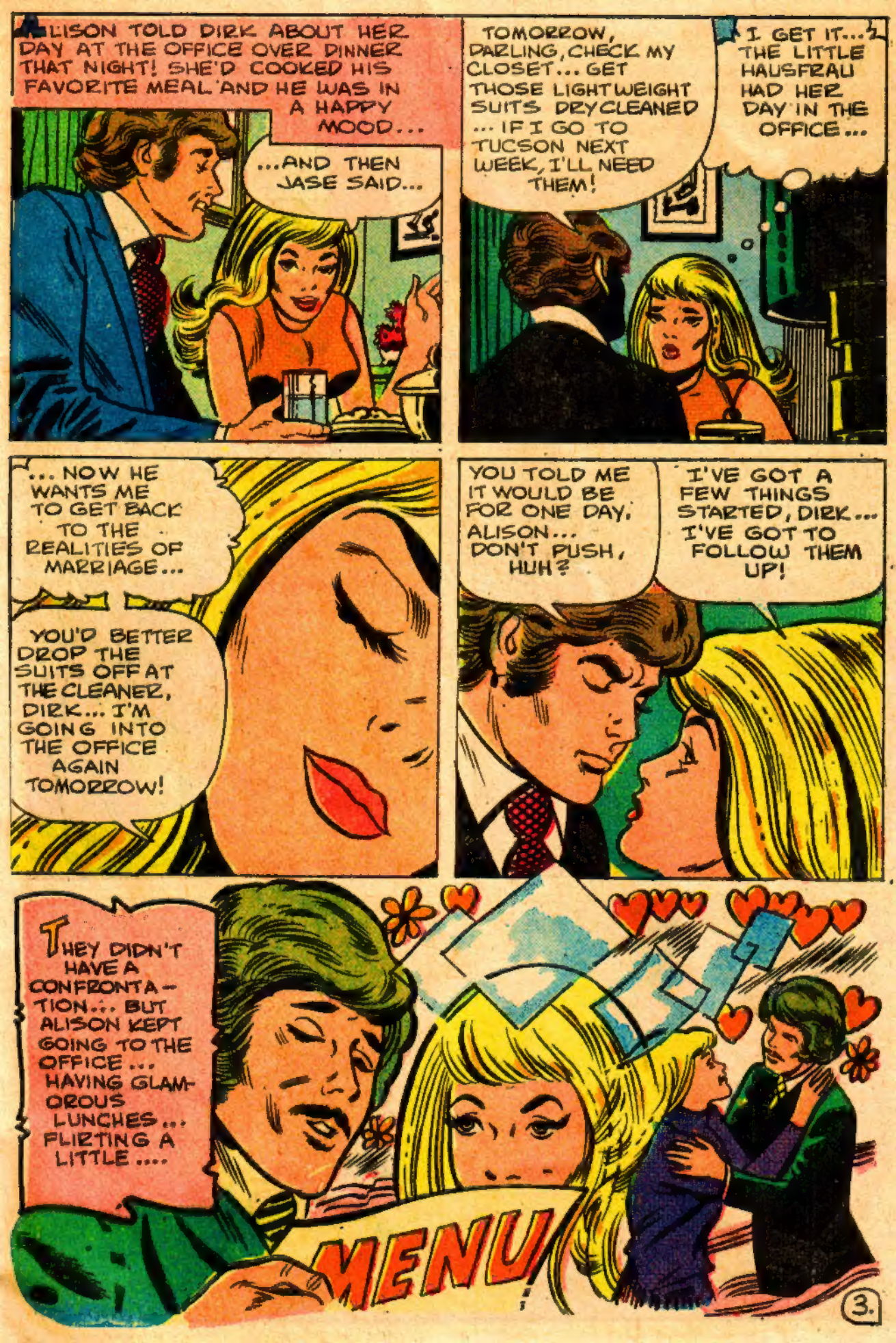

I TOLD YOU BEFORE THE WEDDING, ALISON... I DON'T WANT YOU WORKING... YOUR CAREER IS HERE ... AS MY WIFE!
MR. RANDOLPH ASKED ME TO COME IN MONDAY... JUST TO HELP HIM PLAN THE FASHION ADS FOR THE FALL!

WHEN ALISON MARRIED DIRK MONROE, SHE WAS MADLY IN LOVE... AND SHE LOVED BEING DIRK'S WIFE, EVEN AFTER THE HONEYMOON WAS OVER... BUT SHE *DIDN'T* WANT TO BE A *STAY-AT-HOME* WIFE SUCH AS HE SEEMED TO HAVE IN MIND!


I ALWAYS ENJOYED THAT SO MUCH, DIRK DARLING ... PLEASE?
I KNOW HOW CREATIVE YOU ARE, ALISON... I GUESS AN OCCASIONAL DAY AT THE OFFICE WOULDN'T HURT!

JUST MARRIED Vol. 6, No. 102, October, 1974, published bimonthly by Charlton Publications, Inc. at Charlton Building, Division St., Derby, Conn. 06418. Second class postage paid at Derby, Conn. 06418. © Copyright 1974 Charlton Publications, Inc. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. 25¢ per copy. Subscription $1.25 annually. Printed in U.S.A. Geo. Wildman, Managing Editor. The stories, characters and incidents portrayed in this periodical are entirely fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended. This magazine has been produced and sold subject ot the restrictions that it shall only be resold at retail as published and at full cover price. It is a violation of these stipulations for this magazine to be offered for sale by any vendor in a mutilated condition, or at less than full cover price. National Advertising Representatives: Dilo, 114 E. 32nd St., New York, N.Y. 10016 (212-686-8020).

PLAYING HOUSE IS STRICTLY DULLSVILLE! I WANT TO GET BACK TO THE OFFICE... I'LL MEET SO MANY INTERESTING PEOPLE!
I'D WORKED FOR A CLOTHING MANUFACTURER... AND I HELPED DREAM UP OUR BEST SELLERS!
YOU HAVEN'T LOST YOUR TOUCH, ALISON... HOW ABOUT LUNCHING AT ARTURO'S WITH ME AND WE'LL KICK AROUND IDEAS?
YOU ALWAYS WIND UP WITH JUST ONE IDEA, JASE...
WELL? IT'S A GOOD ONE, ISN'T IT?
IT WAS REALLY A STIMULATING DAY! A BUYER CAME TO THE OFFICE AND JASE ASKED ME TO EXPLAIN OUR STYLES...
THIS IS A DOUBLE-DUTY OUTFIT... IT'S GREAT FOR POOLSIDE BUT A GIRL CAN WEAR IT INDOORS OR TO PARTIES AND SO ON!
DARLING, I'VE GOT SO MUCH TO DO... I CAN'T!


ALISON TOLD DIRK ABOUT HER DAY AT THE OFFICE OVER DINNER THAT NIGHT! SHE'D COOKED HIS FAVORITE MEAL AND HE WAS IN A HAPPY MOOD...
...AND THEN JASE SAID...
TOMORROW, DARLING, CHECK MY CLOSET... GET THOSE LIGHTWEIGHT SUITS DRYCLEANED ... IF I GO TO TUCSON NEXT WEEK, I'LL NEED THEM!
I GET IT... THE LITTLE HAUSFRAU HAD HER DAY IN THE OFFICE...
... NOW HE WANTS ME TO GET BACK TO THE REALITIES OF MARRIAGE...
YOU'D BETTER DROP THE SUITS OFF AT THE CLEANER, DIRK... I'M GOING INTO THE OFFICE AGAIN TOMORROW!
YOU TOLD ME IT WOULD BE FOR ONE DAY, ALISON... DON'T PUSH, HUH?
I'VE GOT A FEW THINGS STARTED, DIRK... I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW THEM UP!
THEY DIDN'T HAVE A CONFRONTATION... BUT ALISON KEPT GOING TO THE OFFICE... HAVING GLAMOROUS LUNCHES... FLIRTING A LITTLE....
MENU!
3.

SOMETIMES THERE WERE LATE SESSIONS...
WELL, I THINK THAT DOES IT! WE'LL FEATURE THESE STYLES IN OUR AD CAMPAIGN! NOW, ALISON... LET'S GET DINNER SOMEWHERE!
IN A MINUTE, JASE... AS SOON AS I GO OVER THESE NOTES!
I SHOULD TELEPHONE DIRK... BUT IF I DO, HE'LL GET ALL STRUNG OUT ABOUT HAVING DINNER WITH JASON!
YOU'LL FIND A SUBSTANTIAL RAISE IN YOUR CHECK, SWEETIE... YOU'RE REALLY TERRIFIC IN YOUR JOB... AND IN OTHER WAYS!
W-WE'D BETTER GO, JASE...
IT CAN WAIT, ALISON ...
YES, BUT I CAN'T, MRS. MONROE! I'M TIRED OF WAITING HOME FOR A WIFE WHO PUTS HER CAREER BEFORE HER MARRIAGE!
4.

CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

YOU'RE BEHAVING BADLY, DIRK! JUST BECAUSE YOU CAUGHT US KISSING DOESN'T MEAN...
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT IT DOES MEAN, ALISON! IT MEANS I NO LONGER CARE IF YOU COME HOME OR NOT ... I WON'T BE THERE!
H-HE MEANS IT!
SLAM
HE'S BLUFFING, DARLING! NO MAN IN HIS RIGHT MIND WOULD GIVE YOU UP! NOW, COME ON ... WE'LL BE LATE FOR DINNER!
YOU EAT MINE TOO, JASON ... YOU TOOK ONE LIBERTY TOO MANY... SO FIND YOURSELF ANOTHER GIRL!
ALISON WAS HALF-BLINDED BY TEARS... LUCKILY, A CRUISING CAB CAME ALONG AND WHISKED HER HOME IN A FEW MINUTES WHERE SHE FOUND DIRK PACKING...
DIRK... PLEASE DON'T LEAVE! I WON'T WORK IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO...
IT WASN'T THE WORK, ALISON ... IT WAS THE SIGHT OF SEEING YOU KISS THAT CREEP THAT TORE IT FOR ME!
IT DIDN'T LOOK GOOD I ADMIT... BUT HE TOOK ME BY SURPRISE ... I REALLY CAN'T STAND HIM ... PLEASE BELIEVE ME, DIRK!
5.

I BELIEVE YOU, ALISON...
OH, DIRK...
I COULD NEVER LOVE ANYONE BUT YOU, DIRK!
THEY KNEW, WITH THAT KISS ... THAT THEIRS WAS A LOVE THAT COULD WITHSTAND CRISIS... AND MARRIAGE WAS HER CAREER NOW... ALISON MONROE WAS DETERMINED TO SUCCEED AT IT!
END

FIND-a-WORD

IT'S FUN!

SEEK-a-WORD

IT'S EASY!

YOU NEED NO REFERENCE—JUST A SHARP EYE!!

- ✔ AS YOU LOCATE A WORD IN THE DIAGRAM, CIRCLE IT AND CROSS IT OFF THE LIST.
- ✔ ALL WORDS ARE ALWAYS FOUND IN A STRAIGHT LINE EITHER **FORWARD, BACKWARD, UP, DOWN** OR **DIAGONALLY**. NO LETTERS ARE EVER SKIPPED. YOU WILL NOT USE UP ALL THE LETTERS IN A GIVEN DIAGRAM.
- ✔ FOR A VARIATION, TRY COVERING THE WORD LIST AND CIRCLE AS MANY WORDS IN THE DIAGRAM AS YOU CAN.

CAN YOU FIND THESE ANIMAL BABIES?

1. KID
2. CUB
3. LAMB
4. CALF
5. FOAL
6. FAWN
7. COLT
8. CHICK
9. PUPPY
10. SHOAT
11. OWLET
12. KITTEN
13. TADPOLE
14. DUCKLING

ANSWERS

C	E	L	M	P	S	U	Z	I	H	G	E	B
J	P	A	D	B	M	A	L	M	S	U	N	T
I	W	H	Q	U	K	Y	O	K	C	I	H	C
R	L	S	O	C	L	R	I	J	I	N	V	A
U	Z	T	Y	E	B	T	C	W	F	D	E	L
C	P	D	V	H	T	K	G	O	J	N	K	F
R	M	A	G	E	Z	I	X	P	V	A	F	Y
H	S	V	N	B	O	M	L	S	E	L	M	B
I	R	B	I	W	T	G	C	H	W	A	D	I
S	T	J	L	C	A	X	N	O	Y	E	V	R
X	U	E	K	P	U	F	O	A	L	C	I	L
O	T	V	C	N	D	B	E	T	F	T	O	M
Y	H	A	U	Q	W	P	G	K	B	G	P	D
M	B	Z	D	K	U	Z	U	C	W	O	N	T
C	N	J	T	P	J	V	H	U	S	P	E	B
O	H	K	P	S	O	A	I	R	C	V	I	K
R	B	Y	L	F	R	L	Q	D	W	S	X	L
U	N	O	G	M	Y	X	E	T	A	J	U	N

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LOOK FOR

FIND-A-WORD AND **SEEK-A-WORD**—TWO NEW CHARLTON PUZZLE MAGAZINES FOUND ON MOST NEWSSTANDS!

We have asked Jeannette Copeland to write a special column for this publication. It will consist of answers to those of you who have problems. In this day and age, who hasn't a bothersome situation? We have selected Jeannette Copeland because of her wide experience and knowledge of today's youth. She can talk your language and understand what you have to contend with as you face the tough realities of life that require sound thinking and control of the emotions. So, if you have something on your mind, write her a letter. State your situation simply and briefly. There will be no personal replies. Give all important facts. From your letters, one will be chosen to be answered in every issue of this publication.

****

Dear Jeannette Copeland:

I need your help very badly and in a hurry also because I feel all mixed up. So I better tell you about my situation now. I am 16 years of age and in my last year of high school. I met Tony just a year ago. It was love at first sight. We knew we were made for each other. Tony quit high school in his last year. He has a job as a helper on a delivery truck. When he becomes 21, the company will make him a driver with a big increase in pay.

Tony asked me to marry him. This means I would quit high school and look for a job to help out with the money we will need. Tony said if our parents didn't give the consent, we would elope. So I told my mother. My father isn't very well. He has a kind of a pension and also a part time job. My mother was surprised at first. But then I got the surprise. She told me not to elope. She would make a small party after the church wedding. However, we could not live with her. I share a room with my kid sister. However, my mother said I was making a terrible mistake getting married so young. I met Tony's parents also. They said the same. We were too young to get married. We didn't know what we were getting into. But again, they would not stand in the way. They made it clear, we had to live in our own home and make our own way. They couldn't help us in any manner. My school counselor told me I should finish and get my high school diploma first. Also I was too young to get married. But we do want to be husband and wife. We think we can make a go of it. So, please what do you think we should do? I am beginning to hesitate.

Many thanks,
Elsie K ...

Dear Elsie K:

I have received many letters from girls of about your age who did marry. They have some tough problems on their hands. In most cases, the young husband no longer wants to be tied down. He wants an "out" - divorce! And those that have babies are heartbroken. The responsibilities and maturities needed for a successful marriage are just too much for them at this age let alone the fact that money always seems to be short in the household. I can't turn back the clock of time for them. They made a mistake: Getting married at an age when they weren't prepared for it. Which explains why we have such a high divorce rate in teenage marriages.

I would take a reasonable guess and say that part of the reaction you are facing is due to the fact that the parents on both sides did not oppose the marriage. The decision was left up to the two of you. Now you ask for my advice: Don't get married just now. You are too young and not well prepared for the tough sledding ahead of both of you. Be realistic about the economic aspect of married life. Tony has only one thing to sell in the labor market-his physical powers. He's young and strong, and has no trade, no profession, and alas, not much of an education. I agree with your counselor that you should finish high school and get your diploma. Now just what have you to offer in the labor market — a cashier in a store, a salesgirl, a helper in a factory, a wrapper in a retail store, or anything else not requiring much training.

You will keep this job until a baby arrives on the scene. Can you live on what he makes now? I do feel that love in a marriage is most essential. But it alone won't pay the bills, it won't stop you two from quarreling, and it won't give you the maturity to make sensible needed decisions.

Since you do say you are beginning to hesitate, this does mean you are having doubts. Go a step further. Talk it over with your religious leader and even with a marriage counselor attached to a Family Aid Group.

Cordially yours,
Jeannette Copeland.

If you want to write a letter to Jeannette Copeland, address it:

Jeannette Copeland
c/o Charlton Comics,
Charlton Building,
Derby, Conn. 06418

The BETTER MAN!

THE FIRST TIME WALT AND I DATED, I WAS SEVENTEEN...AND HIS KISSES WERE LIKE NOTHING I'D EVER KNOWN BEFORE! THE BOY WHO TOOK ME TO THE PARTY, DAVID BARR, HAD TOLD ME ABOUT WALT.....DAVID AND I WEREN'T GOING STEADY OR ANYTHING SO I WASN'T BEING DISLOYAL TO HIM WHEN I LET WALT LEAD ME AWAY INTO A CORNER..

I SHOULD'VE PROTECTED HER FROM HIM... I BROUGHT HER HERE...I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR HER!

WALT, I CAME WITH DAVID! IF HE...

STOP WORRYING, DOLL...DAVID AND I ARE OLD BUDDIES...IN FACT, WHEN THE TIME COMES, I'LL ASK HIM TO BE MY BEST MAN!

FIVE WEEKS LATER, WALT DEEGAN REALLY PROPOSED... AND MEANT IT!
I MEAN IT, CINDY... WILL YOU MARRY ME? I NEED YOU... WITHOUT YOU I'LL BE DOOMED!
THE WAY HE SAID IT...HE SOUNDS SO DESPERATE ...BUT I DO LOVE HIM!
OF COURSE, DARLING... I'LL MARRY YOU WHENEVER YOU SAY!
DAVID AND ANOTHER GIRL WERE WITH US THAT DAY...THEY WERE THE FIRST TO KNOW!
MARRIED? CINDY, ARE YOU SURE YOU LOVE HIM THAT MUCH?
OF COURSE, DAVID... I'M MAD ABOUT HIM!
DID SHE TELL YOU, OL' BUDDY? YOU KNOW WHO'S GONNA BE THE BEST MAN, DON'T YOU?
TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER, WALT..
CINDY'S A VERY SPECIAL GIRL, WALT...I WOULDN'T LIKE ANYONE TO GIVE HER A BAD TIME!
I NEVER GUESSED IT BEFORE...BUT DAVID REALLY CARES ABOUT ME TOO!
THE WEDDING WAS REALLY FANTASTIC! WALT WASN'T NERVOUS AT ALL...IN FACT, HE WAS THE CALMEST IN THE WEDDING PARTY!
HAVE SOME CHAMPAGNE, DARLING...IT'LL CALM YOU DOWN!
WHO NEEDS CHAMPAGNE? RIGHT NOW, I'M THE HAPPIEST MAN IN THE WORLD!
2

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I DISCOVERED WHY WALT WAS SO HAPPY...ON OUR HONEYMOON, HE WAS TAKING SOME KIND OF PILLS ...PRESCRIBED BY HIS DOCTOR, HE SAID!
DARLING...DID YOU TAKE ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE HORRIBLE THINGS? YOU'LL BE GROGGY ALL AFTERNOON!
YOU SHOULD TAKE ONE, BABY...THIS IS WHERE IT'S AT... IT'S GOT BOOZE AND EVERYTHING ELSE BEAT A MILE!
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT HAVING DINNER AT A SPECIAL PLACE WHEN HE JUST FLOPPED BACK AND WENT TO SLEEP!
OPERATOR? WE NEED A DOCTOR RIGHT AWAY! IT'S MY HUSBAND...WE'RE IN CABANA NUMBER 18!
YOUR HUSBAND IS HEAVILY SEDATED, MADAME! IF YOU'LL HELP ME FIND THE MEDICATION HE'S BEEN TAKING, I'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO!
BETWEEN US, WE FOUND FIVE DIFFERENT KINDS OF PILLS...UPPERS, DOWNERS, A KIND OF PEP PILL, AND SEVERAL THAT DID THINGS I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND!
I'LL TAKE THESE PILLS WITH ME, MRS. DEEGAN... NONE OF THEM WERE OBTAINED BY PRESCRIPTION... IF THE POLICE FOUND THEM, THEY WOULD PLACE HIM UNDER ARREST!

THE DOCTOR RETURNED A FEW HOURS LATER...WHILE HE WAS THERE, WALT DROWSILY CAME OUT OF THE WORLD HE'D BEEN VISITING!
CINDY? WHAT'S THIS KOOK DOING HERE?
I AM A DOCTOR, SIR, NOT A KOOK! YOU ARE THE ONLY KOOK IN THIS ROOM
YOU HAVE BEEN TAKING CONTROLLED DRUGS WITHOUT PRESCRIPTION! YOU, SIR, HAVE BECOME WHAT YOUR PEERS TERM A PILL-POPPER...IT IS A VERY DANGEROUS SITUATION!
GET OFF IT, DOC...SO I TOOK A FEW DOWNERS TO RELAX...NO HARM DONE!
YOU TOOK THE DOWNERS.. BARBITUATES, ACTUALLY... TO OFFSET THE EFFECTS OF UPPERS...OR PEP PILLS... AND YOU ARE NOW HOOKED TO AN ALARMING DEGREE ON THIS VERY DESTRUCTIVE HABIT!
WE HAVE APPROPRIATED YOUR SUPPLY OF DRUGS, SIR! IF YOU CANNOT SURVIVE THE PAINFUL PERIOD OF WITHDRAWAL I SHALL ADVISE YOUR WIFE TO HAVE YOU ADMITTED TO A HOSPITAL!
WAIT A MINUTE, DOC!
WHAT DID YOU CALL HIM FOR? ALL I WAS DOING WAS TAKING A NAP!
IT WAS MORE THAN THAT, WALT....I COULDN'T WAKE YOU UP.. ..AND YOU WERE BEHAVING STRANGELY BEFORE THAT!
4

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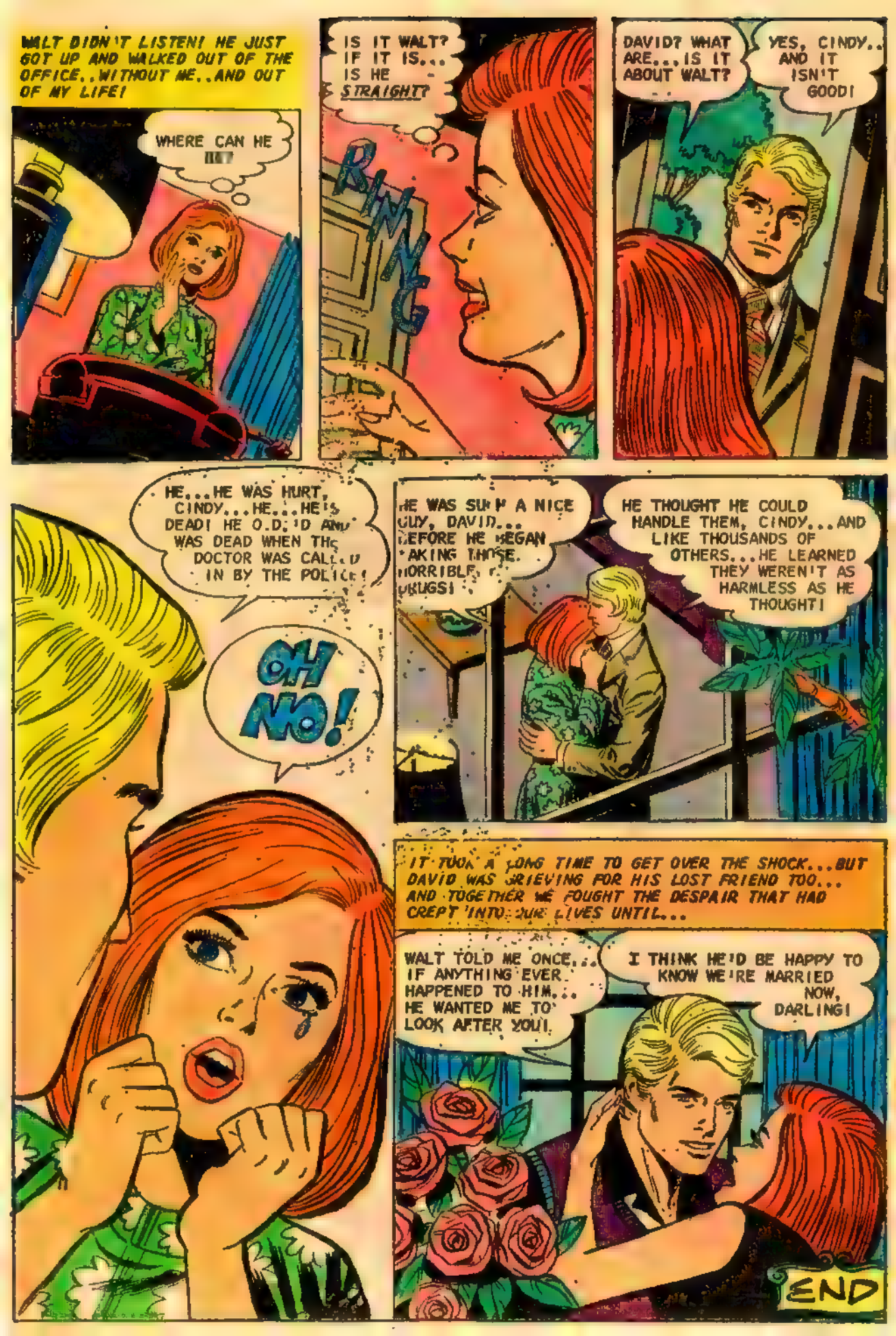
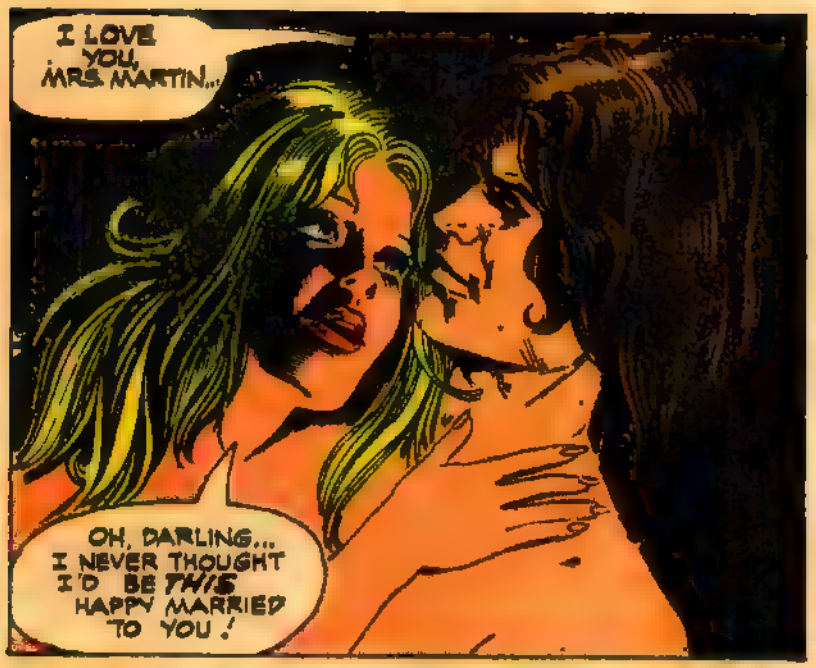
THE DOCTOR HAD NOTIFIED THE HOTEL SECURITY PERSONNEL... WE BOTH KNEW WE WERE WATCHED DURING THE REMAINDER OF OUR STAY THERE! WALT WAS MISERABLE... ALMOST MAD WITH NERVES!
WALT...WHEN WE GO HOME...YOU WON'T START TAKING PILLS AGAIN, WILL YOU?
WILL YOU STOP MEDDLING, CINDY? I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING!
AND...WHEN WE GOT HOME...IT WAS JUST AS IT HAD BEEN BEFORE! IT WAS DAVID BARR WHO WARNED ME!
CINDY, YOU MUST REALIZE WHAT'S HAPPENING! WALT NEEDS HELP...HE'S GOING TO DESTROY HIMSELF!
YOU TWO ARE SCHEMING, AREN'T YOU? IF YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO PUT ME AWAY, YOU'RE BOTH CRAZY!
WALT... WE'RE CONCERNED FOR YOU, WE....
SPLAT
LIAR!
WALT, ARE YOU CRAZY? HE...
WHAAP
YOU'RE WORSE THAN HE IS!
HE KNOCKED OUT A TOOTH AND I NEEDED MEDICAL TREATMENT! WALT CAME TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE WITH ME AND...
YOUR WIFE WILL RECOVER, MR. DEEGAN... I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT YOU!
5


WALT DIDN'T LISTEN! HE JUST GOT UP AND WALKED OUT OF THE OFFICE..WITHOUT ME..AND OUT OF MY LIFE!
WHERE CAN HE BE?
IS IT WALT? IF IT IS... IS HE STRAIGHT?
RING
DAVID? WHAT ARE...IS IT ABOUT WALT?
YES, CINDY.. AND IT ISN'T GOOD!
HE...HE WAS HURT, CINDY...HE...HE'S DEAD! HE O.D.'D AND WAS DEAD WHEN THE DOCTOR WAS CALLED IN BY THE POLICE!
OH NO!
HE WAS SUCH A NICE GUY, DAVID... BEFORE HE BEGAN TAKING THOSE HORRIBLE DRUGS!
HE THOUGHT HE COULD HANDLE THEM, CINDY...AND LIKE THOUSANDS OF OTHERS...HE LEARNED THEY WEREN'T AS HARMLESS AS HE THOUGHT!
IT TOOK A LONG TIME TO GET OVER THE SHOCK...BUT DAVID WAS GRIEVING FOR HIS LOST FRIEND TOO... AND TOGETHER WE FOUGHT THE DESPAIR THAT HAD CREPT INTO OUR LIVES UNTIL...
WALT TOLD ME ONCE... IF ANYTHING EVER HAPPENED TO HIM... HE WANTED ME TO LOOK AFTER YOU!
I THINK HE'D BE HAPPY TO KNOW WE'RE MARRIED NOW, DARLING!
END

A GOOD FIGHT IS FUN

STOP TELLING ME WHAT YOU THINK... I'LL DO THE THINKING FOR BO... NO, RUTHIE!
WHEN I MARRIED KEVIN, I KNEW THERE'D BE STORMY DAYS AHEAD... BUT I NEVER EXPECTED THE FURIOUS ARGUMENTS WE BEGAN HAVING EVEN ON OUR HONEYMOON!
I HATE YOU! YOU'RE A TYPICALLY CONCEITED IDIOTIC MALE!
I WOULD'VE TOLD HIM MORE BUT HE DROPPED THE CHAMPAGNE AND LEAPED AT ME! THE NEXT MOMENT, I FORGOT WHAT WE WERE FIGHTING ABOUT BECAUSE...
THIS ISN'T FAIR... BUT IT'S A WONDERFUL IDEA!

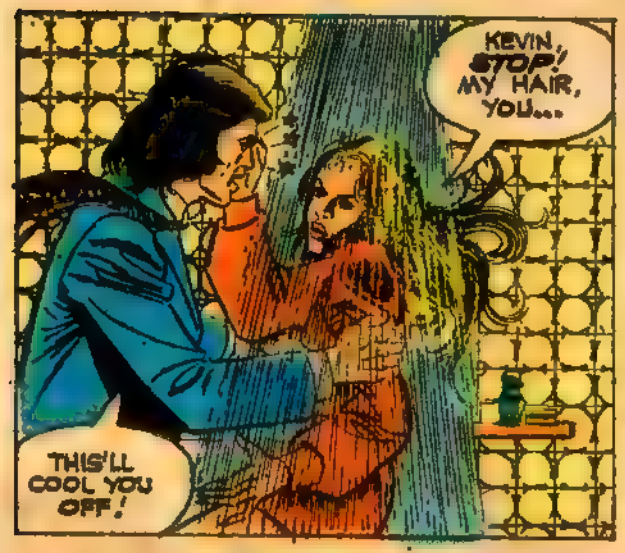

I LOVE YOU, MRS. MARTIN...
OH, DARLING... I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE THIS HAPPY MARRIED TO YOU!

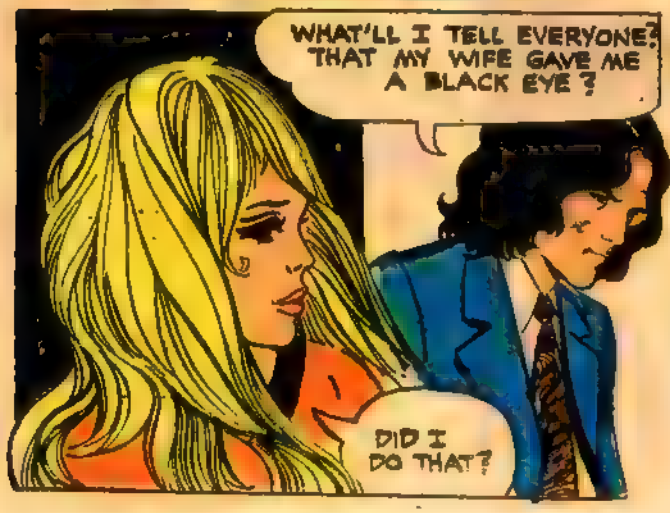
I WOULD'VE MARRIED YOU LAST SPRING WHEN YOU FIRST PROPOSED IF I KNEW WE...
YOU WERE RELUCTANT TO GIVE UP YOUR INDEPENDENCE, THAT'S ALL!

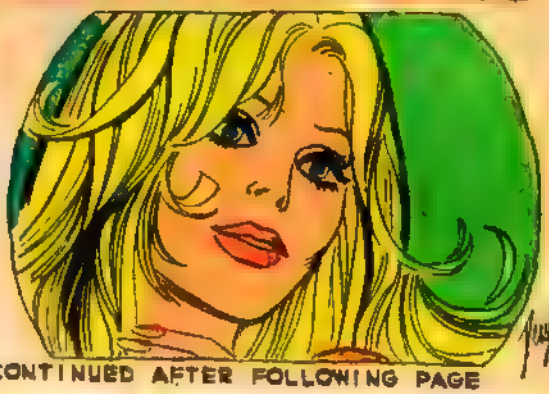
HEY, HUSBAND, I DIDN'T GIVE UP MY INDEPENDENCE! I'M YOUR WIFE NOT YOUR SLAVE!

DON'T IMAGINE YOU'LL BE A FREE SPIRIT ROAMING AROUND CHICAGO AS THOUGH YOU'RE NOT MARRIED AT ALL! YOU...
AND DON'T YOU START LAYING DOWN RULES THIS EARLY IN THE GAME!

SO, THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF OUR HAPPY MARRIED LIFE AND IT GOT BETTER...
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!
ARE YOU CRAZY? PUT THAT DO....







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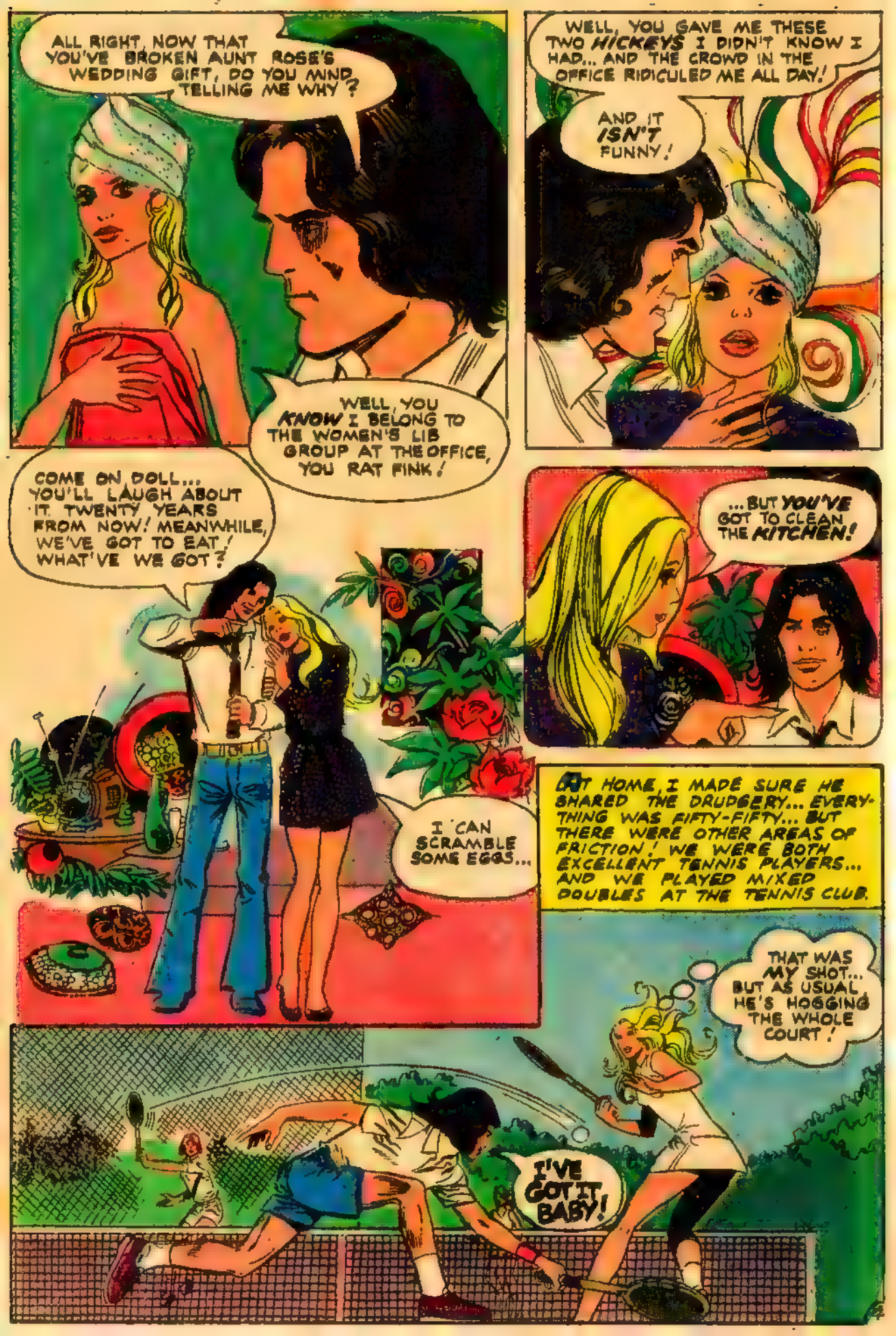
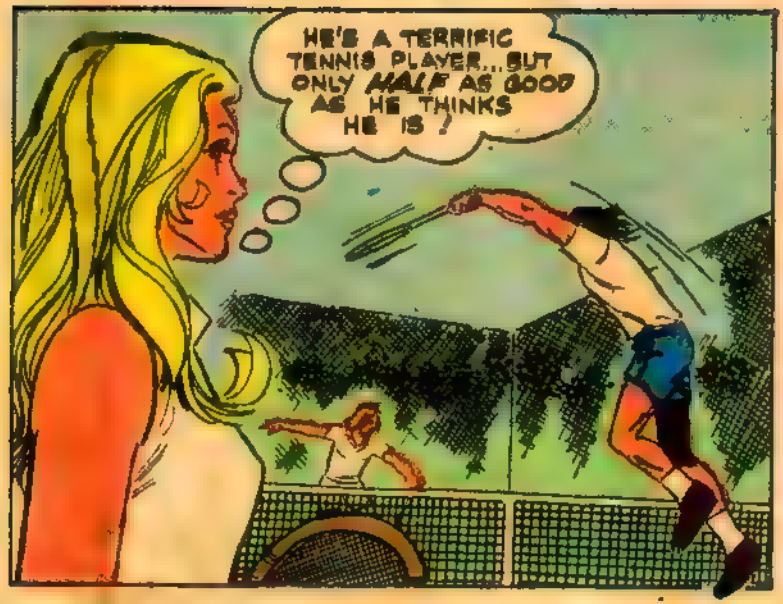
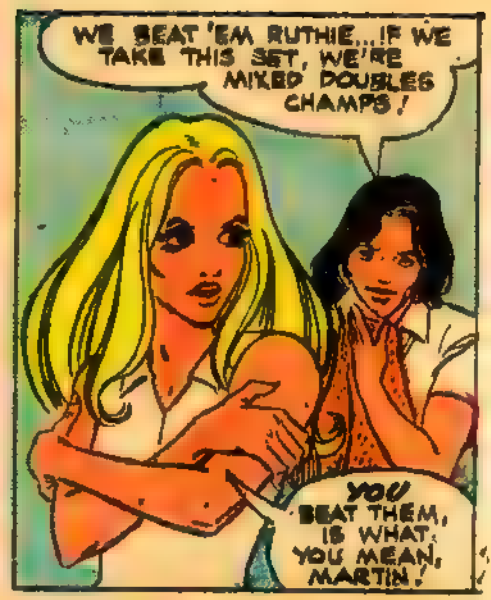
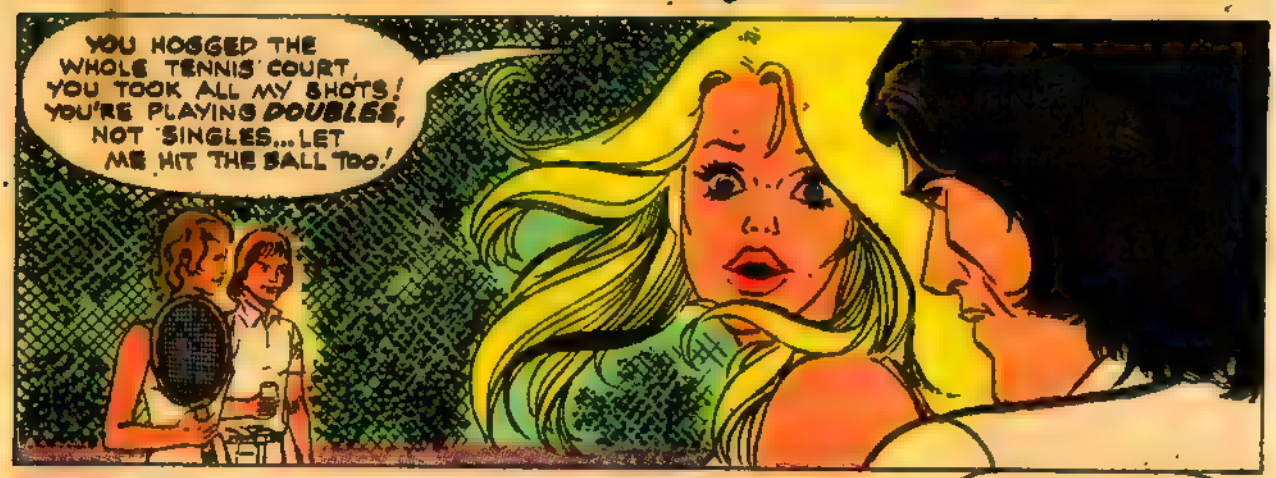
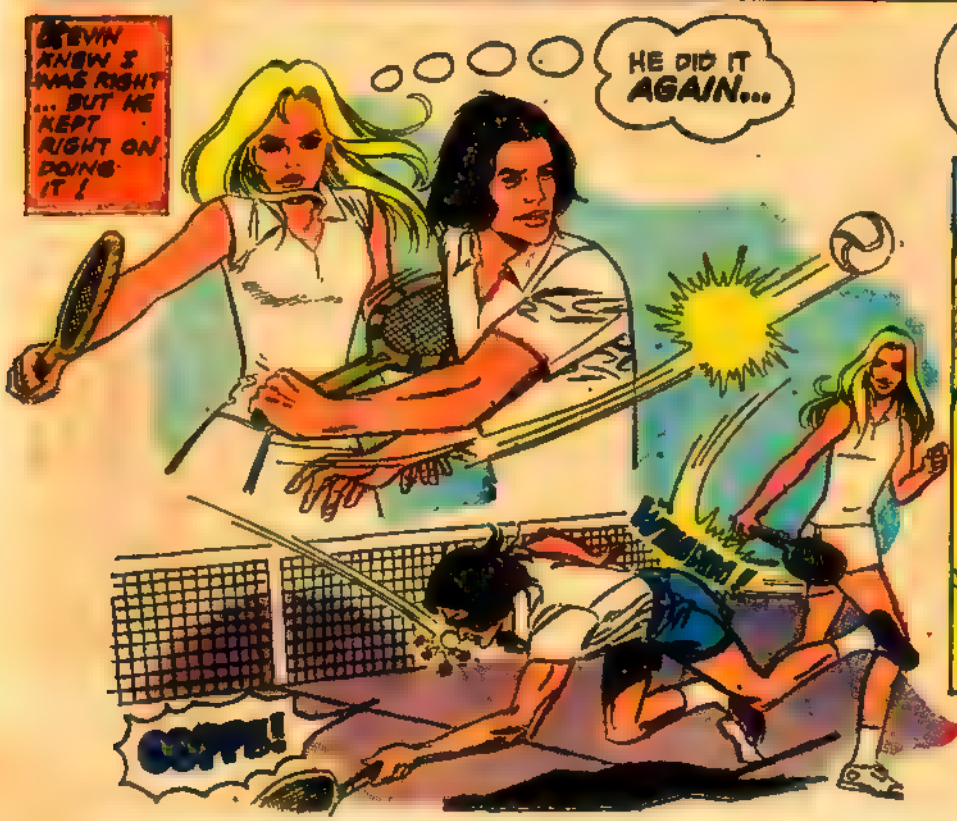
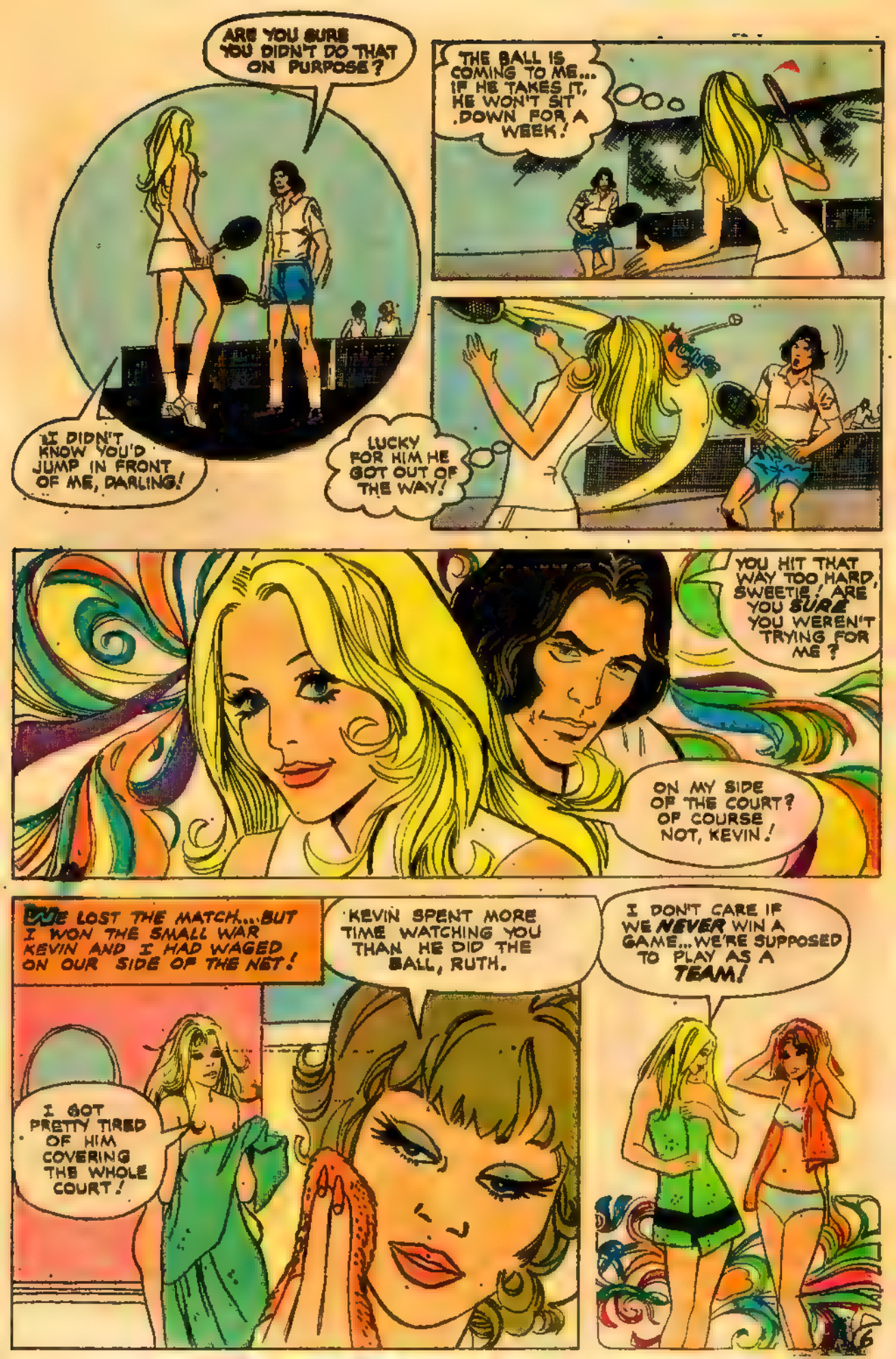

ALL RIGHT, NOW THAT YOU'VE BROKEN AUNT ROSE'S WEDDING GIFT, DO YOU MIND TELLING ME WHY?
WELL, YOU KNOW I BELONG TO THE WOMEN'S LIB GROUP AT THE OFFICE, YOU RAT FINK!
WELL, YOU GAVE ME THESE TWO HICKEYS I DIDN'T KNOW I HAD... AND THE CROWD IN THE OFFICE RIDICULED ME ALL DAY!
AND IT ISN'T FUNNY!
COME ON DOLL... YOU'LL LAUGH ABOUT IT. TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW! MEANWHILE, WE'VE GOT TO EAT! WHAT'VE WE GOT?
...BUT YOU'VE GOT TO CLEAN THE KITCHEN!
I CAN SCRAMBLE SOME EGGS...
AT HOME, I MADE SURE HE SHARED THE DRUDGERY... EVERYTHING WAS FIFTY-FIFTY... BUT THERE WERE OTHER AREAS OF FRICTION! WE WERE BOTH EXCELLENT TENNIS PLAYERS... AND WE PLAYED MIXED DOUBLES AT THE TENNIS CLUB.
THAT WAS MY SHOT... BUT AS USUAL, HE'S HOGGING THE WHOLE COURT!
I'VE GOT IT, BABY!

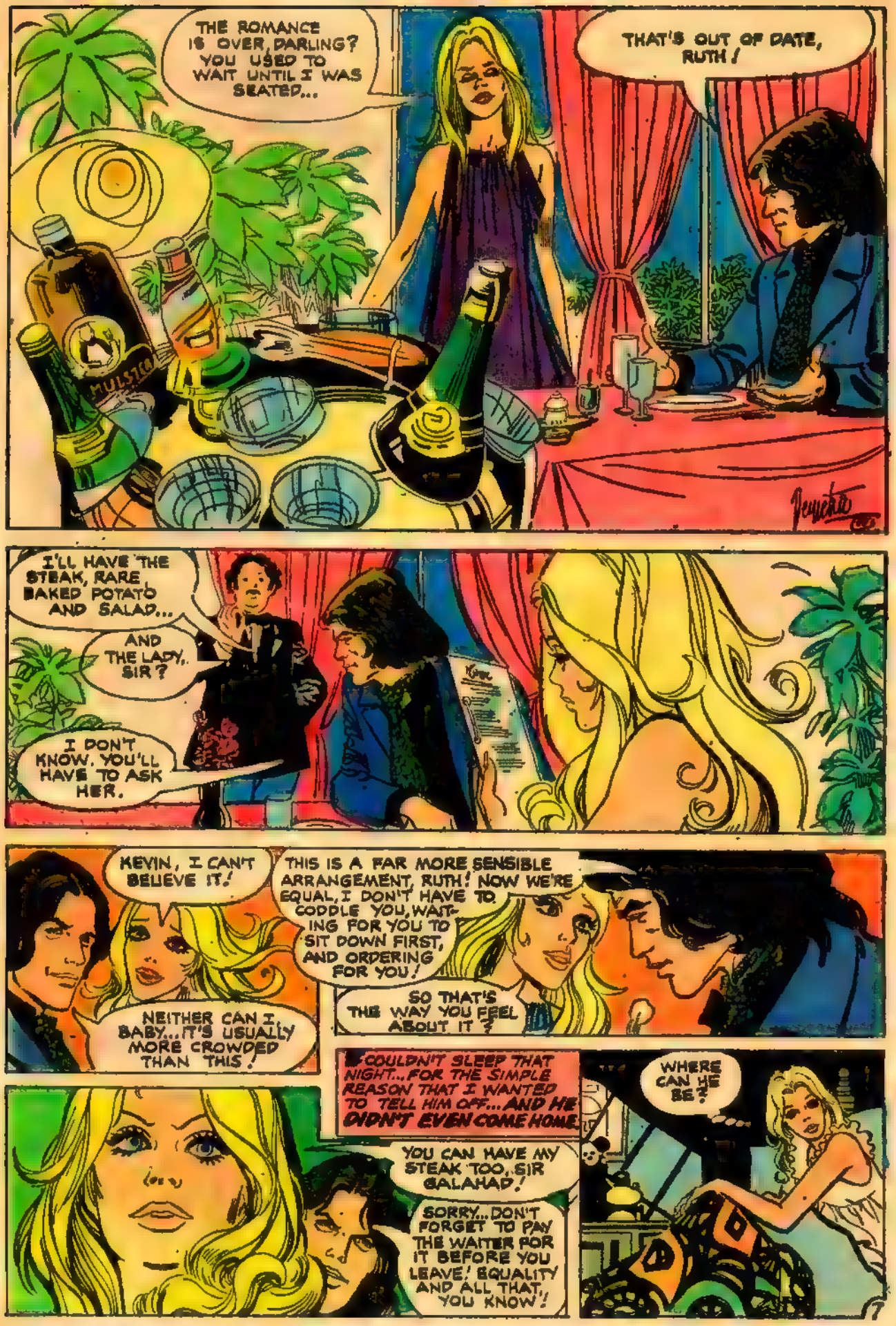

HE'S A TERRIFIC TENNIS PLAYER... BUT ONLY HALF AS GOOD AS HE THINKS HE IS!

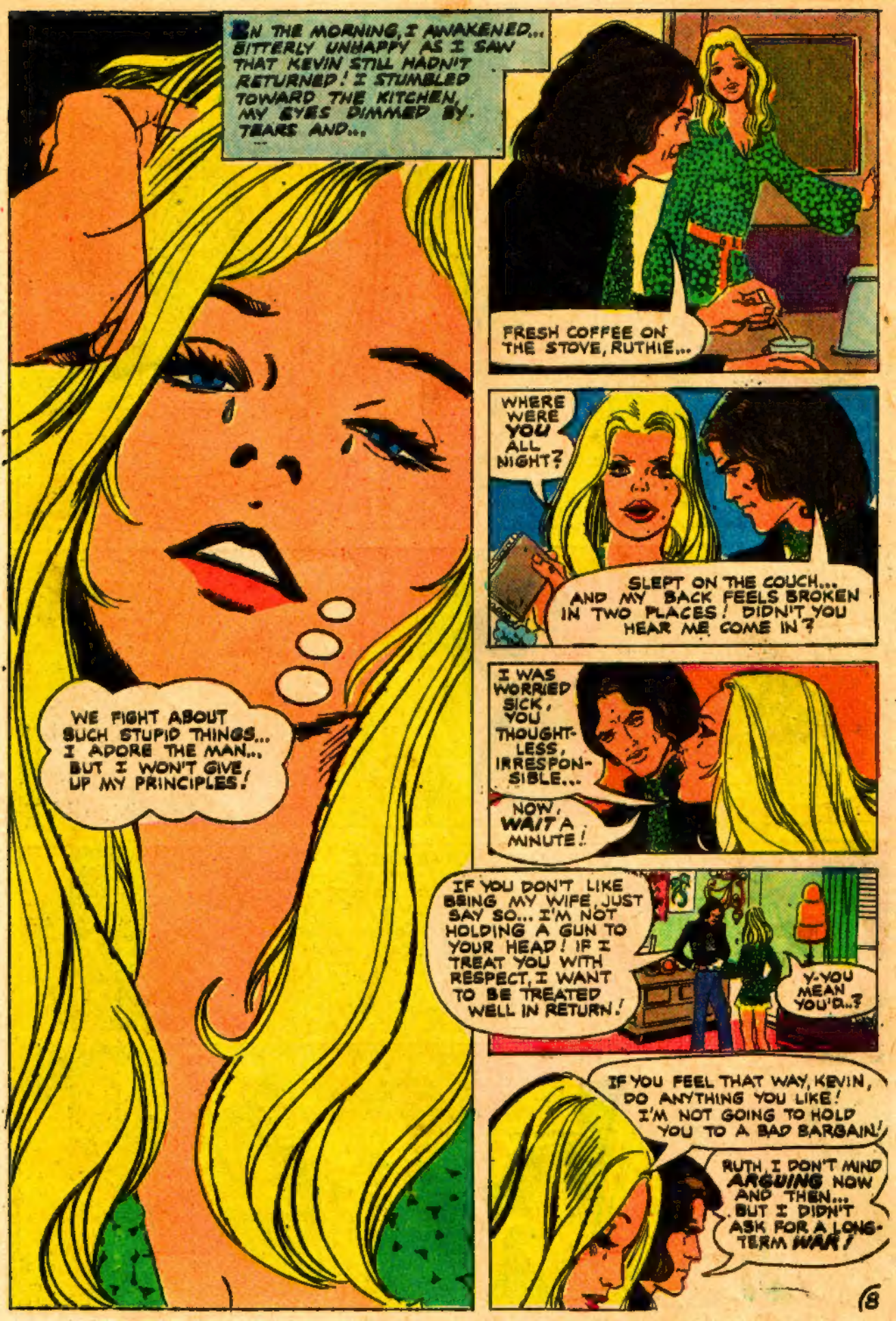

WE BEAT 'EM RUTHIE... IF WE TAKE THIS SET, WE'RE MIXED DOUBLES CHAMPS!
YOU BEAT THEM, IS WHAT YOU MEAN, MARTIN!


YOU HOGGED THE WHOLE TENNIS COURT, YOU TOOK ALL MY SHOTS! YOU'RE PLAYING DOUBLES, NOT SINGLES... LET ME HIT THE BALL TOO!


STEVIN KNEW I WAS RIGHT ... BUT HE KEPT RIGHT ON DOING IT!
HE DID IT AGAIN...
I STARTED TO SWING BEFORE YOU JUMPED IN FRONT OF ME... TO HIT THE BALL ON MY SIDE!
SWISH!
OOPS!


ARE YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T DO THAT ON PURPOSE?
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU'D JUMP IN FRONT OF ME, DARLING!
THE BALL IS COMING TO ME... IF HE TAKES IT, HE WON'T SIT DOWN FOR A WEEK!
LUCKY FOR HIM HE GOT OUT OF THE WAY!
POW
YOU HIT THAT WAY TOO HARD, SWEETIE! ARE YOU SURE YOU WEREN'T TRYING FOR ME?
ON MY SIDE OF THE COURT? OF COURSE NOT, KEVIN!
WE LOST THE MATCH...BUT I WON THE SMALL WAR KEVIN AND I HAD WAGED ON OUR SIDE OF THE NET!
KEVIN SPENT MORE TIME WATCHING YOU THAN HE DID THE BALL, RUTH.
I GOT PRETTY TIRED OF HIM COVERING THE WHOLE COURT!
I DON'T CARE IF WE NEVER WIN A GAME...WE'RE SUPPOSED TO PLAY AS A TEAM!


THE ROMANCE IS OVER, DARLING? YOU USED TO WAIT UNTIL I WAS SEATED...
THAT'S OUT OF DATE, RUTH!
I'LL HAVE THE STEAK, RARE, BAKED POTATO AND SALAD...
AND THE LADY, SIR?
I DON'T KNOW. YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK HER.
KEVIN, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
NEITHER CAN I, BABY... IT'S USUALLY MORE CROWDED THAN THIS!
THIS IS A FAR MORE SENSIBLE ARRANGEMENT, RUTH! NOW WE'RE EQUAL, I DON'T HAVE TO CODDLE YOU, WAITING FOR YOU TO SIT DOWN FIRST, AND ORDERING FOR YOU!
SO THAT'S THE WAY YOU FEEL ABOUT IT?
I COULDN'T SLEEP THAT NIGHT... FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT I WANTED TO TELL HIM OFF... AND HE DIDN'T EVEN COME HOME.
WHERE CAN HE BE?
YOU CAN HAVE MY STEAK TOO, SIR GALAHAD!
SORRY... DON'T FORGET TO PAY THE WAITER FOR IT BEFORE YOU LEAVE! EQUALITY AND ALL THAT, YOU KNOW!


IN THE MORNING, I AWAKENED... BITTERLY UNHAPPY AS I SAW THAT KEVIN STILL HADN'T RETURNED! I STUMBLED TOWARD THE KITCHEN, MY EYES DIMMED BY TEARS AND...
WE FIGHT ABOUT SUCH STUPID THINGS... I ADORE THE MAN... BUT I WON'T GIVE UP MY PRINCIPLES!
FRESH COFFEE ON THE STOVE, RUTHIE...
WHERE WERE YOU ALL NIGHT?
SLEPT ON THE COUCH... AND MY BACK FEELS BROKEN IN TWO PLACES! DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME COME IN?
I WAS WORRIED SICK, YOU THOUGHTLESS, IRRESPONSIBLE...
NOW, WAIT A MINUTE!
IF YOU DON'T LIKE BEING MY WIFE, JUST SAY SO... I'M NOT HOLDING A GUN TO YOUR HEAD! IF I TREAT YOU WITH RESPECT, I WANT TO BE TREATED WELL IN RETURN!
Y-YOU MEAN YOU'D...?
IF YOU FEEL THAT WAY, KEVIN, DO ANYTHING YOU LIKE! I'M NOT GOING TO HOLD YOU TO A BAD BARGAIN!
RUTH, I DON'T MIND ARGUING NOW AND THEN... BUT I DIDN'T ASK FOR A LONG-TERM WAR!

I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU THOUGHT OF IT AS A WAR!
LOOK, RUTH... DON'T CRY... I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING OUT OF MEANNESS!
I KNOW THAT, KEVIN... BUT I WANT TO DO MY SHARE...
WE'RE MARRIED ...WE'RE JOINED TOGETHER AS MAN AND WIFE... WE'RE A TEAM!
I GUESS I'VE GOT TO MAKE SOME ADJUSTMENTS...
MY MOTHER AND DAD WERE HAPPY... BUT MOM WAS ALWAYS THE DAINTY FEMININE TYPE... DAD ENJOYED BABYING HER... BUT WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A DIFFERENT KIND OF MARRIAGE!
BUT ONE EQUALLY HAPPY, DARLING... NOW THAT WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER!
DON'T PUT ME ON A PEDESTAL AND PROTECT ME FROM LIFE... I DON'T WANT TO BE PROTECTED... I WANT TO BE AT YOUR SIDE ALL THE WAY!
THIS TIME WHEN OUR LIPS MET, THERE WAS MORE THAN LOVE IN OUR HEARTS ..THERE WAS UNDERSTANDING... AND I HAD CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE WE WERE GOING TO SHARE!
END

FUTURE IN LAWS

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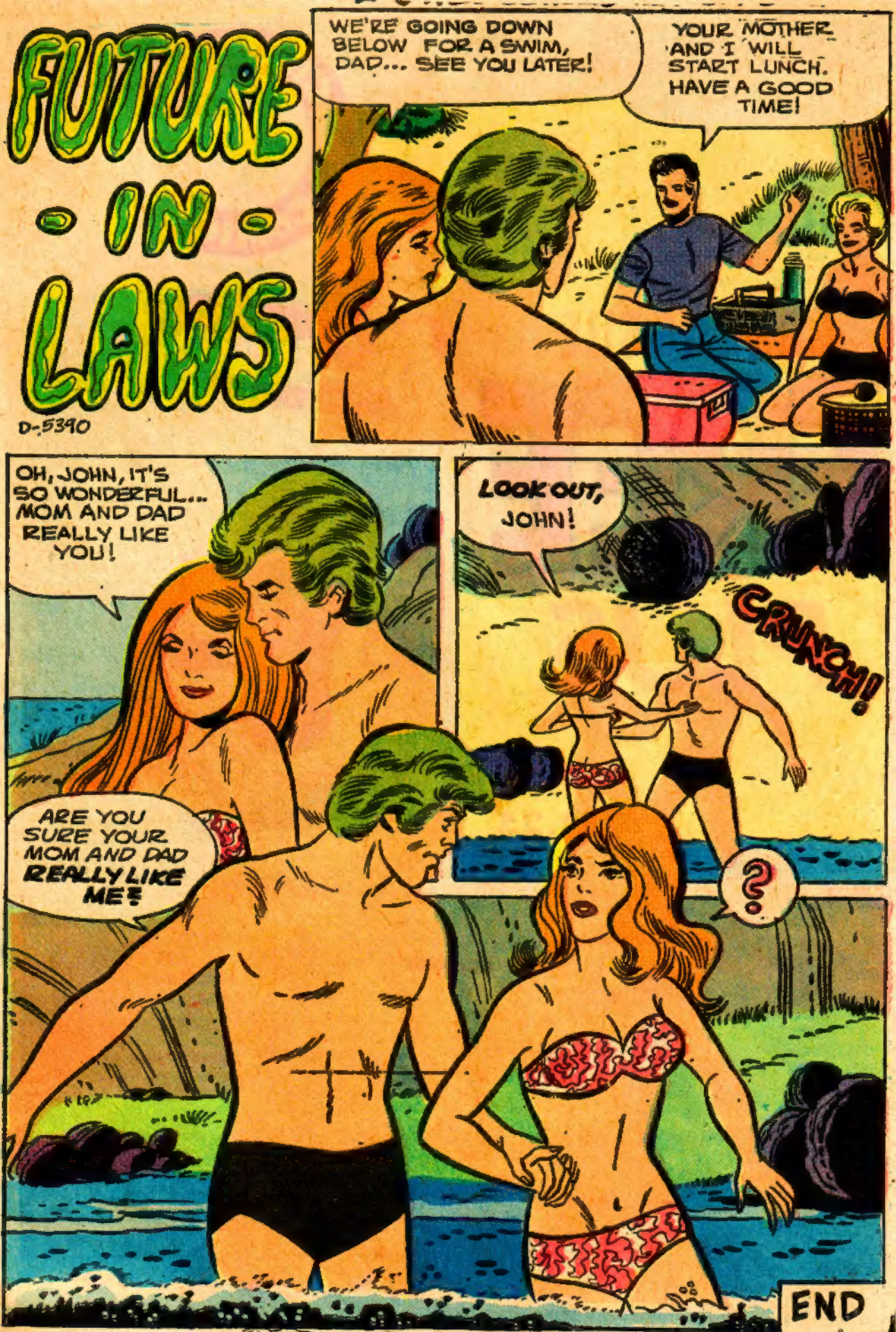
WE'RE GOING DOWN BELOW FOR A SWIM, DAD... SEE YOU LATER!
YOUR MOTHER AND I WILL START LUNCH. HAVE A GOOD TIME!
OH, JOHN, IT'S SO WONDERFUL... MOM AND DAD REALLY LIKE YOU!
ARE YOU SURE YOUR MOM AND DAD REALLY LIKE ME?
LOOK OUT, JOHN!
CRUNCH!
?
END

JIM APARO

1932 - 2005

One of the last TRUE comic book professionals

OKAY, THE GOOD GUYS ARE CLOSING IN ON THE BAD GUYS! I'LL TAKE A BREAK, THEN CALL MURRAY BACK FOR THE WIND-UP!
VIGILANTE 107
DCP Scan